

**INLAND WETLANDS & WATERCOURSES AGENCY
REGULAR MEETING
MONDAY, JANUARY 5, 2015 – 7:30 P.M.
WOODSTOCK TOWN HALL – LOWER LEVEL, ROOM B**

MINUTES

Present: Acting Chair Marla Butts, Diane Wolff, Patty Lacasse, Carl Knittel, Woody Durst, Tina Lajoie, (IWWA Clerk), Terry Bellman (Wetlands Agent), Greg Favreau, Joseph Polulech, P.E., Jacque Dunaway (8:25)

I. Call to Order – Meeting was called to order by Acting Chair Marla Butts at 7:32 p.m.

II. Roll Call – Woody Durst, Diane Wolff, Marla Butts, Patty Lacasse, Carl Knittel

III. Appointment of Alternates – None

It is noted for the record by M. Butts that Mr. Greg Favreau's appointment on the IWWA has expired effective December 31, 2014 and the BOS have not yet renewed this appointment.

IV. Action on Minutes of Previous Meeting – December 1, 2014

It is noted for clarification that the agenda did not have the same numbering sequence as the minutes and the last number on the minutes should have been item IX and not item VIII.

MOTION BY PATTY LACASSE TO APPROVE THE MINUTES AS PRESENTED, SECONDED BY CARL KNITTEL. MOTION CARRIED. (Diane Wolff abstained)

V. Old Business – (Tabled from December meeting).

Request for approval of Timber Harvest as "Use Permitted as of Right."

- 259 Coatney Hill Road (Paul Hebert) – submitted by Michael Bartlett at Hull Forest Products. No one is present to represent the applicant. Application states that the proposal is for a 5-acre parcel with 41,000+ board feet to be harvested to provide income to the owner and the harvest treatment is shelter wood. Only proposing to remove trees in the upland review area and there is one crossing of wetlands on an existing path and a temporary portable bridge will be used to prevent erosion. No discussion.

MOTION BY DIANE WOLFF TO APPROVE THE TIMBER HARVEST FOR 259 COATNEY HILL RD., SECONDED BY CARL KNITTEL. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

VI. New Business

11-14-26 Martin Weiss, 168 West Quassett Rd. – cleaning of shore front area.

No one is present to represent the property owner. Wetlands Agent, Terry Bellman, provides the details as the following. What is proposed is to remove the muck above the water line to clean up the beach area and moving it 170 feet uphill to fill in a low spot. Silt fence is proposed around the spoils removed from the lake and will be done while the water is low during this time of the year. He further notes that the application was received prior to the last meeting on December 1st but did not get onto the agenda. There is a depression on the lot from previous work and stumps that were buried. He would like to fill in this area. The depression does not hold water currently. Material will be moved by a vehicle. D. Wolff, resident of Quassett Lake area, states that the water was recently tested by a consultant, sample testing, looking for weeds, bacteria, chemicals from lawn maintenance and the tests came out clean. E-coli found by the dam but a very minor amount. There is discussion on how the lake association deals with this type of work being done on the shorelines. There is discussion on whether this could be

considered a non-regulated use or under maintenance and enjoyment of a residential property. Since it's a lake association property, it wouldn't be considered "residential". The Agency considers approving under a declaratory ruling and allowing it as a non-regulated use as conservation of soil and water or outdoor recreation. There have been general permits for beach clean-up issued in the past and also individual permits. Since this application was delayed and filed on 11/24/14, it was agreed that it should be processed.

MOTION TO APPROVE APPLICATION 11-14-26 BY CARL KNITTEL TO REMOVE THE SEDIMENT FROM BEACH AREA, SECONDED BY PATTY LACASSE. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

VII. Wetlands Agent Activity Report

1. Bradford Corner Road – Review of letter from Syl Pauley, 12-17-14

T. Bellman reads the letter from S. Pauley for the record which presents his opinion as an engineer reviewing the work completed and ultimately states that it is his professional opinion that the new 24" HDPE pipe is able to handle the flow from the drainage system that it is connected to, and the elimination of the ditch had no significant impact on the wetlands and roadway safety has been enhanced. There are questions from the Agency relating to this letter and plan details. M. Butts requests watershed delineation to this location. This application did not include hydraulic calculations. It is noted that despite the lack of hydraulic calculations, John Navarro had used the manual from The Transportation Institute dated August 2007 as a guide and the guidelines set forth allows for sizing of piping based on the watershed area. If less than 20 acres, the minimum pipe size should be 8" plus the number of acres, rounding up. No less than 18" should be used for a culvert and a pipe no less than 12" should be used for a driveway. C. Knittel is satisfied with the results of the work and visited the site during a rainfall event and confirmed that the system was working well, no excessive run-off. M. Butts notes some of the rainfall totals over the last 6 months and states none were real significant since last spring. To summarize, an unauthorized pipe is in place with an engineer saying that it is adequate to handle the flows. Does IWWA want to: (1. amend the permit to include this even though this is an increase to the work that was authorized; (2. Take no action at all based on the information received?

It was noted that John Navarro has been working continuously to resolve by responding to IWWA requests over the last 6 months. Piping was done by highway based on a safety concern and the okay from the Board of Selectman to complete. It is further pointed out by T. Lajoie that although the project was done and there were problems as noted, the future projects will be handled in line with guidelines set forth in the CT Transportation Institute manual, the 2004 CT Stormwater Quality manual, with the assistance of Syl Pauley, P.E. and Terry Bellman, Wetlands Agent, will also be included in the process. So improvements are being made to the way things will be handled in the future. After discussion, the following was decided: IWWA has decided to take no action on the conditions on Bradford Corner Road with the understanding that in the future, there will be better communication and an agreement on the guidelines to be used. IWWA will take some time to review the manual from David Orr from August of 2007 for future discussions.

2. Bungay Hill Road – Review of letter from Syl Pauley, 12-23-14

Syl Pauley's review suggests discharging the pipe further upstream from that last existing culvert into a scour hole that would be mortared rock and would have to be maintained over time and also talks about the sediment in the brook being upstream from the point of discharge and difficulty in determining where that sediment actually originated. Joseph Polulech, P.E. is present and details his credentials and gives his recommendations. He states in his follow-up report read for the record and dated 01/05/2015 the following conclusion, in part: "I have reviewed Syl Pauley's report from NECCOG and

his proposals are what I would consider to be a bare minimum in mitigation efforts. My proposal is somewhat more comprehensive, more expensive, and provides a higher level of storm water treatment.”

There is also a written report prepared by Joseph Polulech dated July of 2014 on file. He states the drainage work done by PWD was not designed by an engineer and did not take into account the peak flow rates, contributing drainage areas, times of concentration, curve numbers, etc. when designing the pipe sizes for that system. In addition, there are no as-built drawings for this project. J. Polulech’s opinion is that under normal circumstances involving non-critical drainage areas and minimal impacts to wetlands and lakes, minimal designs maybe acceptable. However with this particular case with Bungee Lake immediately downstream, more intensive engineering input would be warranted with as-built drawings. In addition, he further states that the recommendations in his July report would go a long way towards improving the water quality of the storm water presently out-letting into Bungee Brook and Bungee Lake. The mitigating practices proposed are not as stringent as they could have been.

S. Pauley recommended putting in a new double catch basin, and another catch basin on the other side of the road which is acceptable to J. Polulech. A plunge pool and erosion protection is also recommended at the outlet of the pipe. J. Polulech also reports an erosion problem at the downstream side of Bungay Hill Rd which has been going on for a while. T. Bellman did not remember any erosion problems during the road repair process and also reports that when he did a site walk in the summer with J. Polulech and J. Dunaway, that there was a good amount of sediment in the brook but the origin is not clearly identified. He recalls when the road cut was made to put in the storm drain system, the area was unstable for a short period of time and some water came through that area.

How does IWWA want to handle the fact that no permit was ever applied for to allow the installation of the new drainage system on Bungay Hill Road and no plan exists? As pointed out by T. Bellman, J. Navarro is willing to attempt some remediation. There are two proposals. Drainage system does appear to be working and was installed middle of 2014. The question remains what level of treatment will be required for the storm water, minimum amount or make an effort and do better treatment? An application to IWWA will be required from the town for the work that will be done to Bungay Hill Road for the remediation, once a plan of action is decided upon by John Navarro. It is noted that this application must include the activity that has already occurred and will address the storm drain system and the discharge. If the storm drain system picked up intermittent watercourses that originally went across the road and now comes down the storm drain system, that should also be included in the application. Correspondence should be sent to the BOS requesting an application for the storm drain system and remediation of its outfall.

MOTION BY PATTY LACASSE TO NOTIFY THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN, IN WRITING, THAT AN APPLICATION FOR THE MODIFICATION TO THE DRAINAGE SYSTEM ON BUNGAY HILL ROAD AND ITS STORM DRAIN OUTFALL ARE REQUIRED UNDER THE INLAND WETLANDS REGULATIONS, SECONDED BY CARL KNITTEL. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

3. Update on DEEP, draft permit proposal for MS4 plan

T. Bellman gives an overview of recent developments. Allan Walker and John Navarro attended the public hearing on this draft permit. Smaller municipalities are opposed to the passing of this plan since the proposal will mandate a list of costly requirements without any increase in revenue. No decision has been made but it looks like it will go back to DEEP for modification.

4. Principles of Drainage for Local Roads – A guide from Town of Woodstock DPW

This item will be on the next agenda to allow additional time for the manual to be reviewed by IWWA.

VIII. Citizen's comments / other topics

- 2015-2016 Budget Review

Request by BOS to submit zero percent increase in budget.

**MOTION BY DIANE WOLFF TO SUBMIT THE BUDGET WITHOUT ANY CHANGES,
SECONDED BY CARL KNITTEL. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

IX. Adjournment

**MOTION TO ADJOURN BY DIANE WOLFF, SECONDED BY PATTY LACASSE AT
9:15 P.M. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

Respectfully submitted,

Tina M. Lajoie, IWWA Clerk

Inland Wetlands & Watercourses Agency